

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/770,295

Examiner

Jacob F. Bétit

Applicant(s)

CHANG ET AL.

Art Unit

2164

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 18 September 2007 and the interview dated 4 January 2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 5.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 20080104.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



CHARLES RONES

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with George H. Gates on 4 January 2008.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-implemented method of accessing information from a collection of data comprising:

receiving a query;

generating an inverse index of the collection of data that is augmented with category hierarchy information, by applying a parser and grammar rules to the collection of data to produce a canonical non-terminal representation of the data, storing the canonical non-terminal representation of the data in the inverse index, and storing the category hierarchical information generated from the collection of data with the inverse index; and

generating results to the query in conjunction with the inverse index by performing a search request of the inverse index, by applying the parser and the grammar rules to the query to produce a query canonical form and matching the query canonical form to the canonical non-

terminal representation of the data in the inverse index, and using results from the search request with a search request of a relational database management system, wherein a match to an item in the inverse index also retrieves corresponding category hierarchy information stored with the inverse index, and the category hierarchy information is then mapped to items in the relational database management system in performing the search request of the relational database management system.

Please cancel claims 2-4 as follows:

Claims 2-4 (CANCELED)

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer program, residing on a computer-readable medium, comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

receive a query;

generate an inverse index of a collection of data that is augmented with category hierarchy information, by applying a parser and grammar rules to the collection of data to produce a canonical non-terminal representation of the data, storing the canonical non-terminal representation of the data in the inverse index, and storing the category hierarchical information generated from the collection of data with the inverse index; and

generate results to the query in conjunction with the inverse index by performing a search request of the inverse index, by applying the parser and the grammar rules to the query to

produce a query canonical form and matching the query canonical form to the canonical non-terminal representation of the data in the inverse index, and using results from the search request with a search request of a relational database management system, wherein a match to an item in the inverse index also retrieves corresponding category hierarchy information stored with the inverse index, and the category hierarchy information is then mapped to items in the relational database management system in performing the search request of the relational database management system.

Please cancel claims 6 and 7 as follows:

Claims 6-7 (CANCELED)

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

After reviewing the prior art of record and the arguments made by the applicant it was determined that the prior art of record does not disclose, teach, or suggest (along with all other features of the claim):

generating an inverse index augmented with category hierarchy information, by applying a parser and grammar rules to the collection of data to produce a canonical non-terminal representation of the data; and

performing a search request of the inverse index, by applying the parser and grammar rules to the query to produce a query canonical form and matching the query canonical form to

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the canonical non-terminal representation of the data in the inverse index, as claimed in the independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jacob F. Bétit whose telephone number is (571) 272-4075. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 9:30 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

jfb
4 Jan 2008


CHARLES RONES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER